



ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.: KCX-486(17639)

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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TC 3700 MAIL ROOM

In re Application)
Krautkramer, et al) Examiner: Unknown
Serial No.: 10/037,472) Art Unit: 3761
Filed: December 21, 2001) Deposit Acct. No.: 04-1403
Title: Composite Absorbent)
Members)

Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

Prior to examination on the merits and calculation of fees, please amend the above-captioned application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1, ¹⁴20, and 25-26 to read as follows (See also Appendix A):

1. (Amended) A composite absorbent member comprising a first layer positioned between second and third layers, said first layer and said second and third layers each containing pulp fibers, wherein the weight percentage of pulp fibers within said first layer is greater than the weight percentage of pulp fibers within said second layer and the weight percentage of pulp fibers within said third layer, and wherein the average diameter of the pores within said first layer is smaller than the average diameter of the pores within said second layer and said third layer.

14. (Amended) A composite absorbent member for use in a sanitary napkin,